

Please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification:

~~Please replace the current Specification with the Substitute Specification filed herewith.~~

In the Sequence Listing:

~~Please replace the current Sequence Listing with the Substitute Sequence Listing submitted herewith.~~

In the Claims:

~~Please amend the claims as follows:~~

~~Please cancel claims 1, 17, 19, 26-88, 96, 97, 105, 106, 111, 112, 117, 118, 120, 122-125, 131, 132, 134, 136-139, 145, 146, 148, 150-211, 219-220, 228, 229, 234, 235, 243, 244, 257, 258, 268, and 269 without prejudice or disclaimer.~~

~~Please replace claims 89, 98, 113, 119, 121, 126, 133, 135, 140, 142, 144, 147, 149, 212, 221, 226, 230, 233, 236, and 250 with the following amended claims:~~

89. (Once Amended) A method of treating an immunodeficiency comprising administering to an individual, a therapeutically effective amount of a protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to 285 of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190;

(b) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 1 to m of SEQ ID NO:2, where m is an integer in the range of 274-284; and

(c) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to m of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190 and m is an integer in the range of 274-284;

wherein the polypeptide having said amino acid sequence modulates lymphocyte proliferation, differentiation, or survival.

C²

98. (Once Amended) A method of treating an immunodeficiency comprising administering to an individual, a therapeutically effective amount of a protein comprising a first amino acid sequence that is 95% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to 285 of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190;

(b) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 1 to m of SEQ ID NO:2, where m is an integer in the range of 274-284; and

(c) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to m of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190 and m is an integer in the range of 274-284;

wherein the polypeptide having said first amino acid sequence modulates lymphocyte proliferation, differentiation, or survival.

C3
113. (Once Amended) A method of treating an immunodeficiency comprising administering to an individual, a therapeutically effective amount of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 134-285 of SEQ ID NO:2.

C4
C5
119. (Once Amended) The method of claim 113 wherein the immunodeficiency is common variable immunodeficiency (CVID).

C6
121. (Once Amended) The method of claim 113 wherein the immunodeficiency is Selective IgA deficiency.

C7
126. (Once Amended) A method of treating an immunodeficiency comprising administering to an individual, a therapeutically effective amount of a protein consisting of a first amino acid sequence which is 90% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence consisting of amino acid residues 134-285 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide having said first amino acid sequence modulates lymphocyte proliferation, differentiation, or survival.

C8
133. (Once Amended) The method of claim 126 wherein the immunodeficiency is common variable immunodeficiency (CVID).

C⁹ 135. (Once Amended) The method of claim 126 wherein the immunodeficiency is Selective IgA deficiency.

C¹⁰ 140. (Once Amended) A method of treating an immunodeficiency comprising administering to an individual, a therapeutically effective amount of a protein comprising a first amino acid sequence which is 90% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence consisting of amino acid residues 134-285 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide having said first amino acid sequence modulates lymphocyte proliferation, differentiation, or survival.

C¹¹ 142. (Once Amended) The method of claim 140 wherein the protein also comprises a heterologous amino acid sequence.

C¹² 144. (Once Amended) The method of claim 140 wherein said protein is labeled.

C¹³ 147. (Once Amended) The method of claim 140 wherein the immunodeficiency is common variable immunodeficiency (CVID).

C¹⁴ 149. (Once Amended) The method of claim 140 wherein the immunodeficiency is Selective IgA deficiency.

212. (Once Amended) A method of stimulating leukocyte proliferation, differentiation or survival comprising administering to an individual, a therapeutically effective amount of a protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to 285 of SEQ ID

C15 NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190;

(b) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 1 to m of SEQ ID

NO:2, where m is an integer in the range of 274-284; and

(c) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to m of SEQ ID

NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190 and m is an integer in the range of 274-284;

wherein the polypeptide having said amino acid sequence modulates lymphocyte proliferation, differentiation, or survival.

221. (Once Amended) A method of stimulating leukocyte proliferation, differentiation or survival comprising administering to an individual, a therapeutically effective amount of a protein comprising a first amino acid sequence that is 95% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to 285 of SEQ ID

C16 NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190;

(b) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 1 to m of SEQ ID

NO:2, where m is an integer in the range of 274-284; and

(c) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to m of SEQ ID

NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190 and m is an integer in the range of 274-284;

wherein the polypeptide having said first amino acid sequence modulates lymphocyte proliferation, differentiation, or survival.

C17 226. (Once Amended) The method of claim 225 wherein the heterologous amino acid sequence is the amino acid sequence of an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

C¹⁸ 230. (Once Amended) A method of stimulating leukocyte proliferation, differentiation or survival comprising administering to an individual, a therapeutically effective amount of a protein consisting of an amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 134-285 of SEQ ID NO:2.

C¹⁹ 233. (Once Amended) The method of claim 230 wherein said protein is labeled.

C²⁰ 236. (Once Amended) A method of enhancing host defenses against infection comprising administering to an individual, a therapeutically effective amount of a protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to 285 of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190;

(b) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 1 to m of SEQ ID NO:2, where m is an integer in the range of 274-284; and

(c) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to m of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190 and m is an integer in the range of 274-284;

wherein the polypeptide having said amino acid sequence modulates lymphocyte proliferation, differentiation, or survival.

250. (Once Amended) A method of enhancing host defenses against infection comprising administering to an individual, a therapeutically effective amount of a protein comprising a first amino acid sequence that is 95% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to 285 of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190;

(b) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 1 to m of SEQ ID NO:2, where m is an integer in the range of 274-284; and

(c) the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues n to m of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 2-190 and m is an integer in the range of 274-284;

wherein the polypeptide having said first amino acid sequence modulates lymphocyte proliferation, differentiation, or survival.

C22
Please add the following new claims:

275. (New) The method of claim 89 wherein the immunodeficiency is common variable immunodeficiency (CVID).

276. (New) The method of claim 89 wherein the immunodeficiency is Selective IgA deficiency.

C22
277. (New) The method of claim 98 wherein the immunodeficiency is common variable immunodeficiency (CVID).

278. (New) The method of claim 98 wherein the immunodeficiency is Selective IgA deficiency.